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TO: MEMBERS, FORMATION COMMISSION

FROM: DAVID CHURCH, AICP, EXECUTIVE OFFICER (DC)

DATE: FEBRUARY 20, 2014

SUBJECT: WATER STATUS REPORT - COUNTY AND STATE

Recommendation. It is respectfully recommended that the Commission receive and file this report.

STATEWIDE STATUS

On January 17, 2014 with California facing water shortfalls in the driest year in recorded state history, Gov. Jerry Brown declared a drought state of emergency. (Exhibit A) He proclaimed a State of Emergency and directed state officials to take all necessary actions to prepare for these drought conditions, including, but not limited to the following:

- The declaration calls for 20 percent across-theboard water use reductions by Californians.
- That Urban and Municipal water providers implement their water shortage contingency plans immediately to mitigate future impacts of the drought.
- That State agencies immediately implement water reduction plans at state facilities.

Exhibits

A: Governors Drought Declaration, 1-17-14

B: DWR Press Release,

1-31-14

C: State Reservoir

Conditions

D: County Reservoir

Conditions

- The Department of Water Resources will evaluate changing groundwater levels, land subsidence, and agricultural land fallowing as the drought persists and will provide a public update by April 30 that identifies groundwater basins with water shortages and details gaps in groundwater monitoring.
- The State Water Resources Board (Water Board) will immediately consider petitions requesting consolidation of the places of use of the State Water Project and Federal Central Valley Project, to streamline water transfers and exchanges between water users within the areas of these two major water projects.
- The DWR and the Water Board will accelerate funding for 'shovel-ready' water supply enhancement projects.

- The Water Board will put water right holders throughout the state on notice that they
 may be directed to cease or reduce water diversions based on water shortages.
- The Water Board will consider modifying requirements for reservoir releases or diversion limitations, where existing requirements were established to implement a water quality control plan. These changes would enable water to be conserved upstream later in the year to protect cold water pools for salmon and steelhead, maintain water supply, and improve water quality.
- The state's Drinking Water Program will work with local agencies to identify communities
 that may run out of drinking water, and will provide technical and financial assistance to
 help these communities address drinking water shortages. It will also identify emergency
 interconnections that exist among the state's public water systems that can help these
 threatened communities.
- The DWR will take necessary actions to protect water quality and water supply in the Delta, including installation of temporary barriers or temporary water supply connections as needed, and will coordinate with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to minimize impacts to affected aquatic species.
- The Cal Fire will hire additional seasonal firefighters to suppress wildfires and take other needed actions to protect public safety during this time of elevated fire risk.

The drought has caused record low rivers and reservoirs, a snow pack measuring that is 20 percent of normal levels, and extremely low rainfall totals. The declaration warns to prepare for the long term consequences of the drought. San Luis Obispo County was one of 27 counties in the state to be declared a natural disaster by the U.S. Department of Agriculture due to the drought. The Department of Water Resources has stated the State Water Project deliveries are estimated to be cut-back to 0% of its contracted amount for the first time ever. The average statewide snow pack is estimated to be 20% of average for this time of year.

State Water. Attached is the January 31, 2014 news release from the Department of Water Resources projecting that except for a small amount of carry over water from 2013, State Water Project customers will get zero water deliveries in 2014. In effect, the State Department of Water Resources reduced the estimated State Water deliveries from 5% to 0% for State Water contractors in 2014. DWR intends that current urgent demands would be met by allowing contractors to use existing carryover amounts from 2013. San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District has a carryover of amount of 7,332 af.

The DWR has made this determination based on the current reservoir situation in State Water system, the biological situation for the Delta smelt and salmonids, the snow pack measurements, and contractor demands. These allocations may be revised by DWR depending on future conditions. In the 54 years of operation, the DWR has never before announced a zero allocation to all 29 water contractors that buy water from the SWP. Several communities in San Luis Obispo County rely on State Water including: Oceano,

Morro Bay, and Pismo Beach. Here's a look at the past actual deliveries of State Water on a Statewide basis: 2013-35%, 2012-65%, 2011-80%, 2010-50% 2009-40%, 2008-35% and 60% in 2007. The last 100% allocation delivery was in 2006.

Statewide Reservoirs. Attachment C contains a map that shows the condition of the major reservoirs on a statewide basis. The map is dated February 2 and does not include data from the last storm. This is important because it affects the amount of State Water that is released to contractors and these are a significant part of the State's water resources.

Reservoir	% of Capacity	Reservoir	% of Capacity
Trinity Lake	48%	Shasta Reservoir	36%
Lake Oroville	36%	Folsom Lake	17%
New Melones	43%	Don Pedro	51%
Exchequer Reservoir	21%	San Luis Reservoir	31%
Millerton Lake	38%	Pine Flat Reservoir	18%
Pyramid Lake	98%	Castaic Lake	86%

Source: Department of Water Resources

San Luis Obispo County Rainfall Totals. The table below shows the average annual rainfall and rainfall to date for particular areas in San Luis Obispo County:

Community	Avg.	Rainfall	Community	Avg.	Rainfall
Community	Rainfall	To date	Community	Rainfall	To date
Nipomo	16	1.614	Santa Margarita	26	2.205
Lopez Dam	21	3.000	Santa Margarita Lake	23	1.339
San Luis Obispo	24	2.717	Atascadero (South) 18		.906
Los Osos Landfill	20	2.008	Templeton	14.7	1.417
Cambria	22	3.228	Paso Robles	14.33	1.86
Rocky Butte	39	3.346	Hog Canyon	16	.984

Source: www.slocountywater.org County of San Luis Obispo-City of Paso Robles Website

Reservoir Status Update. There are four primary reservoirs relied on within the County for water supply. As of February 5, 2014 Nacimiento is at 22% capacity, Lopez at 56% capacity, Salinas at 39% capacity, Whale Rock at 56% capacity for which these reservoirs provide a large portion of the county's water supply to various communities. The map in attachment D shows the reservoir totals.

Local Drought Response. The communities of San Luis Obispo County each have made local efforts to conserve water and adopted conservation measures or made declaration to assist in water savings. The following table summarizes the actions taken by communities in San Luis Obispo County.

San Luis Obispo LAFCO February 20, 2014

Community and Measures Implemented

City of Arroyo Grande-Press Release of Water Conservation Enforcement January 2014, adopted mandatory water conservation measures 2011 - Severely Restricted Water Supply Conditions

Measures Implemented:

- Use of water which results in excessive gutter runoff is prohibited.
- No water shall be used for cleaning driveways, patios, parking lots, sidewalks, streets or other such use except where necessary to protect the public health and safety.
- Outdoor water use for washing vehicles shall be attended and have hand controlled watering devices, typically including spring-loaded shutoff nozzles.
- Outdoor irrigation is prohibited between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- Irrigation of private and public landscaping, turf areas and gardens is permitted at even-numbered addresses only on Mondays and Thursdays and at odd-numbered addresses only on Tuesdays and Fridays.
- No irrigation of private and public landscaping, turf areas and gardens is permitted on Wednesdays. Irrigation is permitted at all addresses on Saturdays and Sundays.
- In all cases, customers are directed to use no more water than necessary to maintain landscaping.
- Emptying and refilling swimming pools and commercial spas are prohibited except to prevent structural damage and/or to provide for the public health and safety.
- Use of potable water for soil compaction or dust control purposes in construction activities is prohibited.

City of Atascadero- Declared Stage I January 2014, Adopted Cal-Green Building Code Standards effective January 2014 - Stage I Conditions

Measures Implemented:

- Education about Water Conservation, water wise awareness, and water saving tips
- Water Conserving Plumbing Fixtures and Fittings

City of Grover Beach-Declared Stage II August 2013 Stage II Conditions

Measures Implemented:

- Use of potable water for street cleaning;
- Use of potable water to wash sidewalks or roadways where air blowers or sweeping provides a reasonable alternative;
- Use of potable water for construction purposes, such as consolidation of backfill unless no other source of water or method can be used;
- · Restaurant water service to patrons, unless upon request;
- · Refilling existing private pools, except to maintain water levels;
- Use of potable water for washing cars, boats, sidewalks, driveways or other exterior surfaces without a quickacting shut-off nozzle on the hose;
- Use of potable water for planting of turf and other new landscaping, unless it consists of low water using, drought tolerant plants; and
- Operations of any ornamental fountain or car wash, unless the water is re-circulated.

City of Morro Bay - Declared Severely Restricted January 2014 - Severely Restricted Water Supply Conditions **Measures Implemented:**

1. Outdoor Water Use (Except Irrigation).

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Community and Measures Implemented

- a. Use of water which results in excessive gutter runoff is prohibited.
- b. No water shall be used for cleaning driveways, patios, parking lots, sidewalks, streets, or other such uses except where necessary to protect the public health or safety.
- c. Washing cars by use of a hose is prohibited. Use of a bucket is permitted subject to non-wasteful applications.
- 2. Outdoor Irrigation.
- a. Outdoor irrigation is prohibited between the hours of ten a.m. and four p.m.
- b. Irrigation of private and public landscaping, turf areas, and gardens is permitted at even-numbered addresses only on Wednesdays and Sundays, and at odd-numbered addresses only on Tuesdays and Saturdays. All consumers are directed to use no more water than necessary to maintain landscaping.
- c. Newly planted landscaping or newly seeded lawns installed prior to the date these mandatory conservation requirements are imposed may be temporarily exempted from the provisions of subsection (C)(2)(b) of this section; provided, the owner/tenant establishes documentation satisfactory to the city conclusively proving the planting date. Any temporary exemption shall expire when the planting is sufficiently established to survive with twice per week watering. All other conservation measures remain applicable during the temporary exemption.
- 3. Marinas and Waterfront Installations.
- a. Use of fresh water to wash down boats, docks, or other incidental activities is prohibited.
- b. All hoses shall have spring-loaded shutoff nozzles or similar controlling devices.
- 4. Restaurants shall serve water only in response to a specific request by a customer.
- 5. Emptying and refilling of swimming pools and commercial spas is prohibited except to prevent structural damage and/or to comply with public health regulations.
- 6. Use of potable water for compaction or dust control purposes in construction activities is prohibited.
- 7. Any dysfunctional water fixtures in public or commercial facilities shall be repaired within three days of receipt of notification by the city.
- 8. All visitor-serving facilities in the city shall prominently display these mandatory water conservation requirements for the benefit and education of visitors to the community. Such display shall be done in a permanent vandal-resistant manner. Visitor-serving facilities shall include, but not be limited to, all motels, restaurants, campgrounds, recreational vehicle parks, mobilehome parks, service stations, public restrooms, etc. The owners or managers of such facilities shall distribute to all customers a printed handout or flyer describing these mandatory water conservation requirements. Such handouts or flyers shall be provided to the owners or managers of such facilities by the city free of charge.

City of Paso Robles - Declared Level 2 May 2013, Adopted Interim Well Ordinance 1st reading January 2014 - Level 2 Conditions

Measures Implemented:

- A. No Excessive Water Flow or Runoff: Watering or irrigating of any lawn, landscape or other vegetated area in a manner that causes or allows excessive water flow or runoff onto an adjoining sidewalk, driveway, street, alley, gutter or ditch is prohibited.
- B. No Overfilling of Swimming Pools and Spas: Overfilling of a swimming pools and spas such that overflow water is discharged onto an adjoining sidewalk, driveway, street, alley, gutter or ditch is prohibited.
- C. No Washing Down Hard or Paved Surfaces: Washing down hard or paved surfaces, including but not limited to sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios or alleys, is prohibited except under the following conditions:

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Community and Measures Implemented

- 1. To alleviate safety or sanitary hazards, and then only by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off device.
- 2. When a low-volume-high-pressure cleaning machine or a low-volume-high-pressure water broom is used.
- 3. All wash-down activities must comply with all state or local regulations pertaining to discharges to the City's storm drain system.
- D. Obligation to Fix Leaks, Breaks or Malfunctions: Excessive use, loss or escape of water through breaks, leaks or other malfunctions in the customers' plumbing or distribution system for any period of time after such escape of water should have reasonably been discovered and corrected and in no event more than seven days after written notification by the City of El Paso de Robles, is prohibited.
- E. Re-circulating Water Required for Water Fountains and Decorative Water Features:

Operating a water fountain or other decorative water feature that does not use re-circulated water is prohibited.

- F. Limits on Washing Vehicles: Using water to wash or clean a vehicle, including but not limited to any automobile, truck, van, bus, motorcycle, boat or trailer, whether motorized or not is prohibited, except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device. This subsection does not apply to any commercial car washing facility.
- G. Commercial Lodging Establishments Must Provide Guests Option to Decline Daily Linen Services: Hotels, motels and other commercial lodging establishments must provide customers the option of not having towels and linen laundered daily. Commercial lodging establishments must prominently display notice of this option in each bathroom using clear and easily understood language.
- H. No Installation of Single Pass Cooling Systems: Installation of single pass cooling systems is prohibited in buildings requesting new water service.
- I. No Installation of Non-Recirculating Systems in Commercial Car Wash and Laundry Systems: Installation of non-recirculating water systems is prohibited in new commercial conveyor car wash and new commercial laundry systems.
- J. New or Remodeled Restaurants Required to Use Water Conserving Dish Wash Spray Valves: All new or remodeled food preparation establishments, such as restaurants or cafes, are prohibited from using non-water conserving dish wash spray valves.
- K. Water Served Only Upon Request: Restaurants and other food establishments will only serve water upon request.

Additional Level 1 and Level 2 Water Use Restrictions Now In Effect

- 1. Irrigation of residential and commercial landscapes, parks, school grounds and recreation fields, before 9 a.m. and after 7 p.m. except for renovation or repair of the irrigation system with an operator present.
- 2. Repair or prevention of all water leaks upon discovery or within five days of notification by the City of El Paso de Robles.
- 3. All landscape irrigation shall be limited to no more than three assigned days per week and on an every other day schedule established and posted by the City.

City of Pismo Beach- Declared Moderately Restricted, sold a portion of their banked State Water - Moderately Restricted Water Supply Conditions

Measures Implemented:

- A. Use of water which results in excessive gutter runoff is prohibited.
- B. Outdoor water use for washing vehicles, boats, buildings or other similar uses shall be attended and have hand-controlled watering devices, typically including spring-loaded shutoff nozzles.

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Community and Measures Implemented

- C. No water shall be used for cleaning driveways, patios, parking lots, sidewalks, streets, or other such uses except as found necessary by the city to protect the public health or safety.
- D. Outdoor Irrigation.
- 1. Outdoor irrigation is prohibited between the hours of ten a.m. and four p.m.
- 2. Irrigation of private and public landscaping, turf areas and gardens is permitted at even-numbered addresses only on Mondays and Thursdays and at odd-numbered addresses only on Tuesdays and Fridays. All customers are directed to use no more water than necessary to maintain landscaping.
- E. Restaurants shall serve drinking water only in response to a specific request by a customer.
- F. Use of potable water for compaction or dust control purposes in construction activities is prohibited. (Ord. 90-10 § 2 (part), 1990: prior code § 13.06.040)

Staff recommends modifying the restrictions as follows (changes shown in bold):

- A. Use of water which results in excessive gutter runoff is prohibited.
- B. Outdoor water use for washing vehicles, boats, buildings or other similar uses shall be attended and have hand-controlled watering devices, typically including spring-loaded shutoff nozzles.
- C. No water shall be used for cleaning driveways, patios, parking lots, sidewalks, streets, or other such uses except by the City contracted street sweeper, or as found necessary by the city to protect the public health or safety.
- D. Outdoor Irrigation.
- 1. Outdoor irrigation is prohibited between the hours of ten a.m. and four p.m.;
- 2. All customers are directed to use no more water than necessary to maintain landscaping.
- E. Restaurants shall serve drinking water only in response to a specific request by a customer.
- F. Use of potable water for compaction or dust control purposes in construction activities is prohibited. (Ord. 90-10 § 2 (part), 1990: prior code § 13.06.040)

Community and Measures Implemented

City of San Luis Obispo - Adopted a Program Schedule

	San Luis	s Obispo Suggested	I Irrigation S	chedule		
	<u>Program A</u> Lawns & Grasses		Program B Established Trees & Shrubs		Program C Annuals & New Plants	
	Pop-up Fixed Spray	Pop-up Rotational	Fixed Spray (Covert to drip)	Drip (for 2 gal/hr emitters)	Fixed Spray (Convert to drip)	Drip (For 2 gal/hr emitters)
Jan - Feb	Turn system off		Turn systen	n off	Turn systen	n off
March	10 min/wk (or .25")	Check the manufacturer specifications Or Consult the Utilities Conservation Office at (805) 781-7217 or (805) 781-7213	10 min/wk	15 min/wk	15 min/wk	23 min/wk
Apr	30 min/wk (or .75")		15 min/wk	23 min/wk	20 min/wk	30 min/wk
May	45 min/wk (or 1.1")		30 min/wk	45 min/wk	30 min/wk	45 min/wk
June 1 – Aug 31	60 min/wk (or 1.5")		40 min/wk	60 min/wk	40 min/wk	60 min/wk
Sept	45 min/wk (or 1.1")		30 min/wk	45 min/wk	30 min/wk	45 min/wk
Oct	30 min/wk (or .75")		25 min/wk	38 min/wk	25 min/wk	38 min/wk
Mid Nov - Dec	Turn system off		Turn systen	n off	10 min/wk	15 min/wk

Avila Beach CSD - unknown declaration

Cambria CSD - Declared Stage III October 2013 - Stage III Conditions

Lowers the maximum allowable use to two-units (two hundred cubic feet) per resident per month.

Stage 3 also prohibits outdoor irrigation watering and includes surcharges and fines for overuse.

Los Osos CSD - under a building moratorium

Nipomo CSD - No declaration, announced Governor's proclamation Considering Drought Triggers and Response Criteria

Stage I Conditions - All Times, voluntary conservation measures and outreach

Stage II Conditions - Potentially Sever Water Shortage, more aggressive voluntary conservation and outreach 20% goal reduction

Stage III Conditions - Severe Water Shortage, mandatory 30% reduction

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Community and Measures Implemented

Oceano CSD - Announced California drought January 2014 considered sale of water

Heritage Ranch CSD - Declared Stage I October 2013 - Stage I Conditions

Drought Education Phase encourages customers to start conserving water, no enforcement actions.

San Miguel CSD - No declaration

San Simeon CSD - Declared Stage II July 2013 - Stage II Conditions

- 1. All outdoor irrigation of vegetation with potable SSCSD water shall be prohibited.
- 2. The use of SSCSD water for the filling, refilling or adding of water to swimming pools, wading pools, ornamental fountains, or spas shall be limited to the amount necessary to keep the pool or fountain equipment operative and to refill for evaporative losses.
- 3. Restaurants are prohibited from serving SSCSD water to their customers except when specifically requested by the customer.

Templeton CSD - Announced Governor's proclamation of emergency declared Stage I implementing Stage II January 2014 - Stage I Conditions:

- (i) Written notice of the Stage I Resource Severity Level will be mailed to all customers of the District within three working days of its declaration. The notice will contain the reason for the declaration, and describe the use restrictions imposed, the estimated duration of the restrictions and the penalties for non-compliance;
- (ii) Water conservation brochures will be mailed out with the notices referenced in 4.3 (c)(i) above. The brochure will contain tips and suggestions that will help customers reduce their consumption;
- (iii) All watering of lawns, shrubs, or other landscaping, including any other form of outside irrigation, will be prohibited between the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The County Park in Templeton is exempt from this restriction;
- (iv) The local newspaper, and radio and television stations will be asked to publicize the declaration of the Stage I level and the implementation measures; and
- (v) Any other special measures that the Board may adopt.

Stage II Conditions

All of the above plus

- (ii) In addition, all outside watering will be furher restricted to alternate days. All residences, businesses, or any other customer of the District whose street address is even numbered will be allowed to water during the appropriate hours on the corresponding even numbered days, Odd numbered street addresses will be allowed to water on the corresponding odd numbered days.
- (iii) All wasting of water will be prohibited. Examples of water wasting include, but are not limited to: washing streets, sidewalks, and driveways down instead of sweeping, letting hoses run open and/or without a controlling device at the end, and outside watering or irrigation practices that result in water running off the property;
- (v) A request of the community to voluntarily conserve water will be publicly made by the District. The percentage of water use reduction requested will be determined by the Board of Directors at a special meeting called by the District Manager, as soon as possible after the declaration of Stage II level.

Garden Farms - Water Wise Announcement in Spring newsletter - Water Wise Tips

- One way of being water wise is by being vigilant about detecting and locating leaks or losses of water in home plumbing and irrigation systems.
- Water wise tips for the garden and landscape.





A Proclamation of State Emergency

A PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS the State of California is experiencing record dry conditions, with 2014 projected to become the driest year on record; and

WHEREAS the state's water supplies have dipped to alarming levels, indicated by: snowpack in California's mountains is approximately 20 percent of the normal average for this date; California's largest water reservoirs have very low water levels for this time of year; California's major river systems, including the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers, have significantly reduced surface water flows; and groundwater levels throughout the state have dropped significantly; and

WHEREAS dry conditions and lack of precipitation present urgent problems: drinking water supplies are at risk in many California communities; fewer crops can be cultivated and farmers' long-term investments are put at risk; low-income communities heavily dependent on agricultural employment will suffer heightened unemployment and economic hardship; animals and plants that rely on California's rivers, including many species in danger of extinction, will be threatened; and the risk of wildfires across the state is greatly increased; and

WHEREAS extremely dry conditions have persisted since 2012 and may continue beyond this year and more regularly into the future, based on scientific projections regarding the impact of climate change on California's snowpack; and

WHEREAS the magnitude of the severe drought conditions presents threats beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to combat; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of section 8558(b) of the California Government Code, I find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property exist in California due to water shortage and drought conditions with which local authority is unable to cope.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the state Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, section 8625 of the California Government Code HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY to exist in the State of California due to current drought conditions.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1.State agencies, led by the Department of Water Resources, will execute a statewide water conservation campaign to make all Californians aware of the drought and encourage personal actions to reduce water usage. This campaign will be built on the existing Save Our Water campaign (www.saveourh20.org) and will coordinate with local water agencies. This campaign will call on Californians to reduce their water usage by 20 percent.
- 2.Local urban water suppliers and municipalities are called upon to implement their local water shortage contingency plans immediately in order to avoid or forestall outright restrictions that could become necessary later in the drought season. Local water agencies should also update their legally required urban and agricultural water management plans, which help plan for extended drought conditions. The Department of Water Resources will make the status of these updates publicly available.
- 3.State agencies, led by the Department of General Services, will immediately implement water use reduction plans for all state facilities. These plans will include immediate water conservation actions, and a moratorium will be placed on new, non-essential landscaping projects at state facilities and on state highways and roads.
- 4. The Department of Water Resources and the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) will expedite the processing of water transfers, as called for in Executive Order B-21-13. Voluntary water transfers from one water right

holder to another enables water to flow where it is needed most.

- 5. The Water Board will immediately consider petitions requesting consolidation of the places of use of the State Water Project and Federal Central Valley Project, which would streamline water transfers and exchanges between water users within the areas of these two major water projects.
- 6.The Department of Water Resources and the Water Board will accelerate funding for water supply enhancement projects that can break ground this year and will explore if any existing unspent funds can be repurposed to enable near-term water conservation projects.
- 7. The Water Board will put water right holders throughout the state on notice that they may be directed to cease or reduce water diversions based on water shortages.
- 8. The Water Board will consider modifying requirements for reservoir releases or diversion limitations, where existing requirements were established to implement a water quality control plan. These changes would enable water to be conserved upstream later in the year to protect cold water pools for salmon and steelhead, maintain water supply, and improve water quality.
- 9. The Department of Water Resources and the Water Board will take actions necessary to make water immediately available, and, for purposes of carrying out directives 5 and 8, Water Code section 13247 and Division 13 (commencing with section 21000) of the Public Resources Code and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division are suspended on the basis that strict compliance with them will prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the emergency. Department of Water Resources and the Water Board shall maintain on their websites a list of the activities or approvals for which these provisions are suspended.
- 10. The state's Drinking Water Program will work with local agencies to identify communities that may run out of drinking water, and will provide technical and financial assistance to help these communities address drinking water shortages. It will also identify emergency interconnections that exist among the state's public water systems that can help these threatened communities.
- 11. The Department of Water Resources will evaluate changing groundwater levels, land subsidence, and agricultural land fallowing as the drought persists and will provide a public update by April 30 that identifies groundwater basins with water shortages and details gaps in groundwater monitoring.
- 12. The Department of Water Resources will work with counties to help ensure that well drillers submit required groundwater well logs for newly constructed and deepened wells in a timely manner and the Office of Emergency Services will work with local authorities to enable early notice of areas experiencing problems with residential groundwater sources.
- 13. The California Department of Food and Agriculture will launch a one-stop website (www.cdfa.ca.gov/drought) that provides timely updates on the drought and connects farmers to state and federal programs that they can access during the drought.
- 14. The Department of Fish and Wildlife will evaluate and manage the changing impacts of drought on threatened and endangered species and species of special concern, and develop contingency plans for state Wildlife Areas and Ecological Reserves to manage reduced water resources in the public interest.
- 15. The Department of Fish and Wildlife will work with the Fish and Game Commission, using the best available science, to determine whether restricting fishing in certain areas will become necessary and prudent as drought conditions persist.
- 16. The Department of Water Resources will take necessary actions to protect water quality and water supply in the Delta, including installation of temporary barriers or temporary water supply connections as needed, and will coordinate with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to minimize impacts to affected aquatic species.

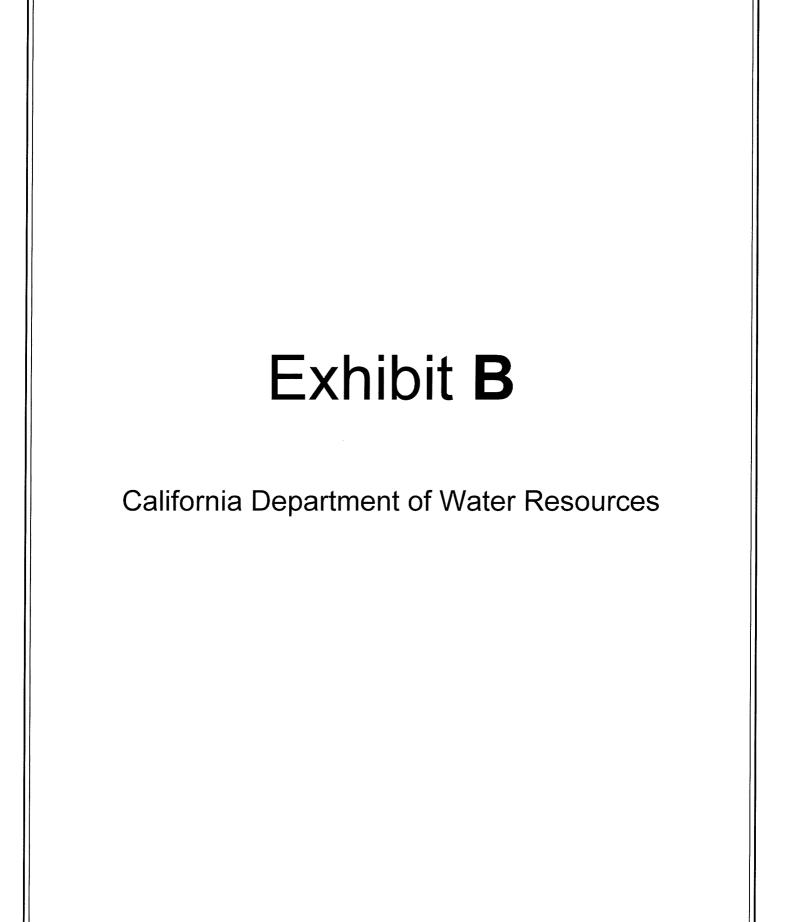
ATTACHMENT 8

- 17. The Department of Water Resources will refine its seasonal climate forecasting and drought prediction by advancing new methodologies piloted in 2013.
- 18. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection will hire additional seasonal firefighters to suppress wildfires and take other needed actions to protect public safety during this time of elevated fire risk.
- 19. The state's Drought Task Force will immediately develop a plan that can be executed as needed to provide emergency food supplies, financial assistance, and unemployment services in communities that suffer high levels of unemployment from the drought.
- 20. The Drought Task Force will monitor drought impacts on a daily basis and will advise me of subsequent actions that should be taken if drought conditions worsen.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this Proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Proclamation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 17th day of January, 2014.

EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor of California
ATTEST:
DEBRA BOWEN, Secretary of State





CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 31, 2014

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DWR Drops State Water Project Allocation to Zero, Seeks to Preserve Remaining Supplies

Severe Drought Leads to Worst-Ever Water Supply Outlook

SACRAMENTO – To protect Californians' health and safety from more severe water shortages in the months ahead, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) today took actions to conserve the state's precious resources. As a result, everyone – farmers, fish, and people in our cities and towns – will get less water. DWR's actions are in direct response to Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.'s drought State of Emergency. In the declaration, the Governor directed DWR and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to act to modify requirements that hinder conservation of currently stored water and allow flexibility within the state's water system to maintain operations and meet environmental needs.

"The harsh weather leaves us little choice," said DWR Director Mark Cowin. "If we are to have any hope of coping with continued dry weather and balancing multiple needs, we must act now to preserve what water remains in our reservoirs."

Except for a small amount of carryover water from 2013, customers of the State Water Project (SWP) will get no deliveries in 2014 if current dry conditions persist and deliveries to agricultural districts with long-standing water rights in the Sacramento Valley may be cut 50 percent – the maximum permitted by contract – depending upon future snow survey results. It is important to note that almost all areas served by the SWP have other sources of water, such as groundwater, local reservoirs, and other supplies.

"It is our duty to give State Water Project customers a realistic understanding of how much water they will receive from the Project," said Director Cowin. "Simply put, there's not enough water in the system right now for customers to expect any water this season from the project."

DWR also has asked the SWRCB to adjust water permit terms that control State Water Project and federal Central Valley Project operations in order to preserve dwindling supplies in upstream reservoirs for farms, fisheries, and cities and towns as the drought continues.

While additional winter storms may provide a limited boost to reservoir storage and water deliveries, it would need to rain and snow heavily every other day from now until May to get us back to average annual rain and snowfall. Even then, California still would be in a drought, because normally wet December and January have been critically dry – and follow a record dry 2013 and a dry 2012.

February 1. Outflow is composed of flows from all tributaries to the Delta, some of which are directly controlled by DWR and Reclamation.

Under the petition, DWR and Reclamation project that outflows will be able to meet an average of 4,500 cfs during February, which is the level currently being achieved in January. To help meet this level of outflow, DWR and Reclamation will export from the Delta a maximum of 1,500 cfs, which will be used to serve health and safety needs.

The petitioners note that they do not believe there is an adequate water supply to meet all obligations under the SWRCB's Water Rights Decision 1641. Without adjustment, "there exists a substantial risk that by late spring 2014 and into 2015 the Projects' major reservoirs will be drafted to dead pool or near dead pool levels at which point reservoir release capacities will be substantially diminished." Dead pool level refers to the condition when water can no longer be released from a reservoir using gravity.

The petition seeks to minimize adverse impacts to the cold water stored in reservoirs for downstream fisheries and to allow for some level of salinity control later in the season. Otherwise, water project operators risk losing entirely the ability to control salinity in the Delta.

"As Governor Brown has directed, we will work closely with our state, federal and local partners to meet health and safety needs and deliver what water is available to critically dry areas," said Director Cowin. "Even though it's dry everywhere, California agencies have traditionally been willing to transfer any water they can spare to more needy areas. Today is a stark reminder that we all have to save every drop we can in our homes and places of work. Conservation is always important, but today it's an absolute necessity."

In addition to the actions announced today, Reclamation yesterday decided to preserve rescheduled water supplies that CVP farmers had banked as a hedge against dry conditions. Director Cowin praised the decision, saying: "In an increasingly complex situation, affirming the ability of water districts to preserve water supplies as a hedge against drought is good water management."

Authority for Changes

California law authorizes the SWRCB to grant temporary changes in permits when it finds an urgent need for the change and the change can be made without injury to other lawful users of water or without unreasonably affecting fish, wildlife, or other instream beneficial uses. The law requires consultation with representatives of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The change must also be found to be in the public interest.

Water Allocation History

In December, DWR estimated it would be able to deliver 5 percent of the slightly more than 4 million acre-feet of State Water Project water requested this year by the 29 public water agencies that purchase water from the project. They are located in Northern California, the Bay Area, San Joaquin Valley, Central Coast, and Southern California.

The 5 percent projected allocation— now reduced to zero — tied with calendar year 2010 for the lowest initial allocation ever. The initial 2010 delivery estimate, made on the heels of the 2007-2009 drought, was eventually increased to 50 percent as winter storms developed.



This historic announcement reflects the severity of California's drought. After two previous dry years, 2014 is shaping up as the driest in state history. Storage in key reservoirs now is lower than at this time in 1977, one of the two previous driest water years on record. Yesterday's Sierra snow survey found the snowpack's statewide water content at only 12 percent of average for this time of year.

Lake Oroville in Butte County, the principal SWP reservoir, is at 36 percent of its 3.5 million acre-foot capacity (55 percent of its historical average for the date). Shasta Lake north of Redding, California's and the federal Central Valley Project's (CVP) largest reservoir, is at 36 percent of its 4.5 million acre-foot capacity (54 percent of average for the date). San Luis Reservoir, a critical south-of-Delta reservoir for both the SWP and CVP, is at a mere 30 percent of its 2 million acre-foot capacity (39 percent of average for the date).

Key facts on water deliveries and impacts:

- Never before in the 54-year history of the State Water Project has DWR announced a zero allocation to all 29 public water agencies that buy from the SWP. These deliveries help supply water to 25 million Californians and roughly 750,000 acres of irrigated farmland.
- Deliveries to senior water rights holders in the Sacramento Valley all agricultural irrigation districts were last cut in 1992.
- The only previous State Water Project zero percent allocation was in 1991 for agriculture, but cities that year received 30 percent of requested allocations.
- "Carryover" water stored by local agencies and water transferred from willing sellers to buyers in critically short areas still will be delivered, as will emergency supplies for drinking, sanitation, and fire protection.

Regulatory Actions Sought

In a formal petition delivered earlier this week, DWR and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) asked the SWRCB to adjust requirements for freshwater outflow in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta in order to preserve stored water that may be needed later in the year for health and safety needs and to provide cold water upstream for protection of salmon and other species. The existing Delta water quality standards, contained in Water Rights Decision 1641, were not written with these extraordinarily dry conditions in mind. The DWR and Reclamation petition seeks adjustment to the water quality and flow requirements for February, along with a request to establish a framework to make further requests and adjustments as the drought evolves.

The petition also seeks flexibility in management of a water quality regulation that requires closure of the Cross-Channel Gates along the Sacramento River near Walnut Grove from February 1 through May 20. Under the current extremely low flow conditions, open gates can help ameliorate salty conditions in the Delta. DWR and Reclamation propose to close the gates should storm runoff boost flows or if fish monitoring indicates closure is needed to protect threatened species.

Water rights permits require the SWP, operated by DWR, and the CVP, operated by Reclamation, to ensure that outflow from the Delta meets an average of 7,100 cubic feet per second (cfs) beginning



The final SWP allocation for calendar year 2013 was 35 percent of requested water amounts. In 2012, the final allocation was 65 percent. It was 80 percent in 2011, up dramatically from an initial allocation of 25 percent. The final allocation was 50 percent in 2010, 40 percent in 2009, 35 percent in 2008, and 60 percent in 2007. The last 100 percent allocation – difficult to achieve even in wet years because of Delta pumping restrictions to protect threatened and endangered fish – was in 2006.

The federal CVP, which supplies much of the state's agricultural water, is expected to announce its initial allocation next month. It also will be dismal, especially for irrigation-dependent farms on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley.

Water-short Valley farmers are expected to fallow thousands of acres, sending negative economic ripples through communities dependent on the agricultural economy.

Farmers also will pump increasing amounts of groundwater, further depleting overtapped aquifers. Governor Brown directed DWR to monitor groundwater levels, land subsidence and land fallowing as the drought persists.

Conservation Key

"We need everyone in every part of the state to conserve water," said Governor Brown in his January 22 State of the State address.

When Governor Brown declared a <u>drought State of Emergency</u> earlier this month, he directed state officials to take all necessary actions to prepare for water shortages. This week, CAL FIRE announced it hired 125 <u>additional firefighters</u> to help address the increased fire threat due to drought conditions, the California Department of Public Health identified and offered <u>assistance</u> to communities at risk of severe drinking water shortages and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife <u>restricted fishing</u> on some waterways due to low water flows worsened by the drought. Also this week, the California Natural Resources Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency and the California Department of Food and Agriculture also released the <u>California Water Action Plan</u>, which will guide state efforts to enhance water supply reliability, restore damaged and destroyed ecosystems and improve the resilience of our infrastructure.

Governor Brown has called on all Californians to voluntarily reduce their water usage by 20 percent and the Save Our Water campaign has announced four new public service announcements that encourage residents to conserve. Last December, the Governor formed a Drought Task Force to review expected water allocations and California's preparedness for water scarcity. In May 2013, Governor Brown issued an Executive Order to direct state water officials to expedite the review and processing of voluntary transfers of water.

To learn easy, practical ways to save water, click here:



Governor Brown's Drought Emergency Declaration:

http://gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=18368



California Department of Water Resources

· Press Release ·

January 31, 2014

Electronic snowpack readings are available on the Internet at:

http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cdecapp/snowapp/sweg.action

Electronic reservoir readings may be found at:

http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cdecapp/resapp/getResGraphsMain.action

For a broader snapshot of current and historical weather conditions, see DWR's "Water Conditions" and "Drought" pages:

Water Conditions Page

http://www.water.ca.gov/waterconditions/

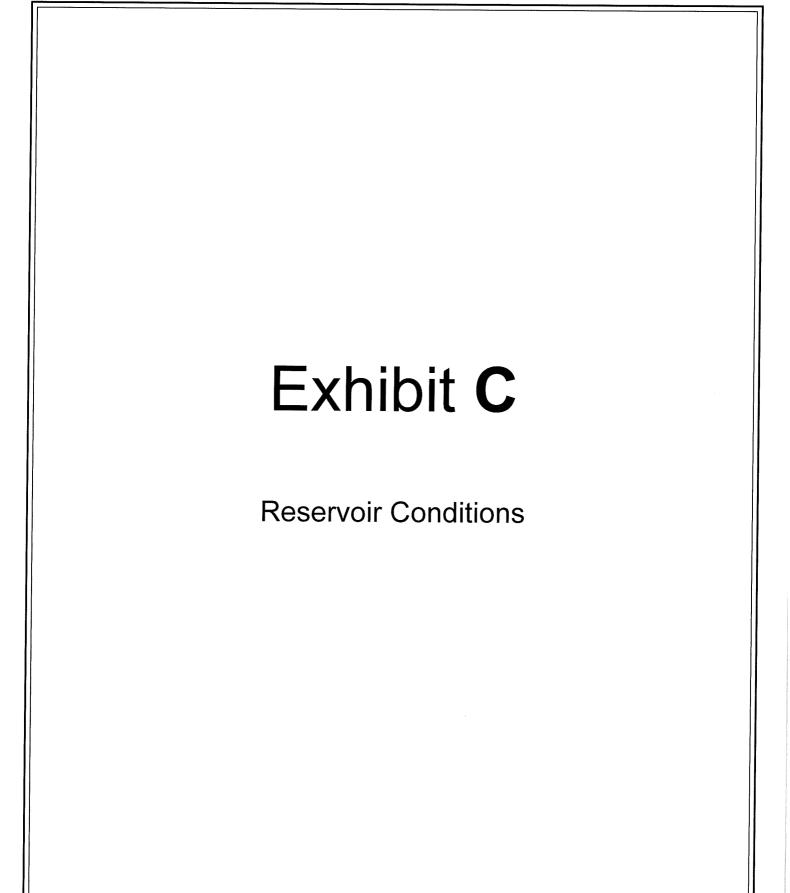
Drought Page

http://www.water.ca.gov/waterconditions/drought/

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The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.



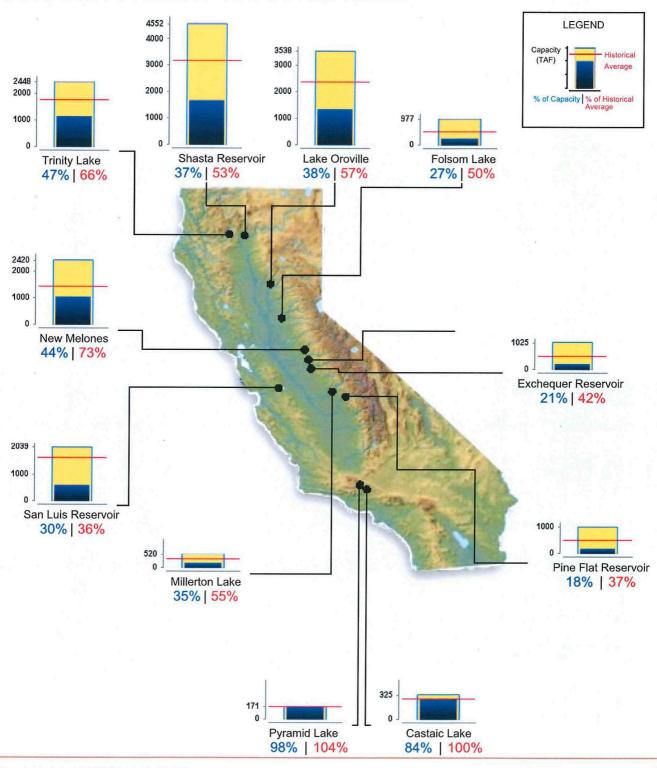




Reservoir Conditions

Ending At Midnight - February 11, 2014

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

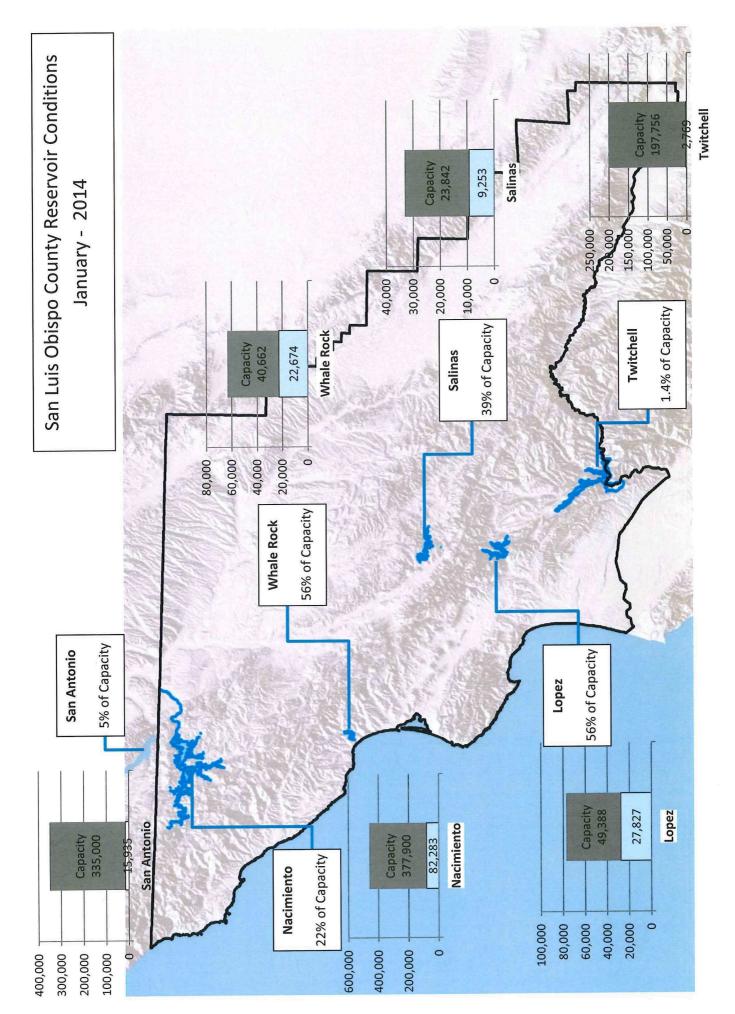


Graph Updated 02/12/2014 02:15 PM



San Luis Obispo County Reservoir Conditions

January 2014



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